

Massachusetts
 Feb 18 1879

My Dear Mr Garrison

28

Having your right
 was in the able opinion of our
 U. S. Circuit Judge, Baxter, who in
 the days of slavery, was a slave
 holder, delivered at Cincinnati,
 in the case of Henrietta Wood
 vs. Jas. Ward, I herewith send
 you the Cincinnati Gazette
 of yesterday, containing the opin-
 ion in full, and which I am
 sure will be recognised as sound
 by every lawyer in the length and
 breadth of the land, who is capable
 of understanding the point upon
 which he bases the right of the
 plaintiff to recover damages.

for being deprived of her liberty.

I feel assured that the old abolitionists, as the slavery is abolished, will feel like rendering to Mr. Justice Baxter their highest praise as an upright and able judge.

You will observe that the court in Kentucky before which the woman tried to have her right to freedom settled, instead of settling that right, simply dismissed her petition, or rather the Court in this or Circuit Court at Lexington is disposed of the case, and on a writ of error presented in the Court of Appeals the latter Court simply said "we find no error in the proceedings below" Neither of these decisions entitles the woman now again asserting her freedom as the Court in Kentucky have not to have passed upon the question:

True to the instincts of slavery they recognised the old legal doctrine, which left the record uncertain and inconclusive, as against the Claimant - Harriette Wood

Altho slavery is gone, and its horrors fast being forgotten, this decision of Judge Baxter in the light of the authorities he cites will as Richard Hilguth says be kept on the "historic stage" in all coming time, and exhibit its enormities in that world of credit to even the keen analysis of William Wendell

Very respectfully
Robert H. Fulger